IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Akira WAKABAYASHI

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: ONLINE TRADING SYSTEM

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicant wishes to amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please rewrite claims 5-9 as follows:

5.   (Amended) An online trading system according to claim 3 further comprising:

unit price storing means for storing a unit price of bidding up, wherein, if the article is to be sold to a bid submission received by said prior bid receiving means, said successful bid determining means determines a successful bid price by adding the unit price to the highest price of the bid submission received by said bid submission receiving means.

6.   (Amended) An online trading system according to claim 3 further comprising:

unit price storing means for storing a unit price of bidding up; and

starting price storing means for storing a starting price of the auction, wherein, if there is no bid submission at the auction but a bid submission is received via the communicating

means, said successful bid determining means determines a successful bid price by adding the unit price to the starting price.

7.   (Amended) An online trading system according to claim 1, wherein said information showing means shows the information of the article to public for a predetermined number of days and hours before the date of the auction at which the article is to be auctioned.

8.   (Amended) An online trading system according to claim 1, wherein said information showing means shows the information of the article to public on a predetermined day weeks before the date of the auction at which the article is to be auctioned.

9.   (Amended) An online trading system according to claim 1, wherein the article is a used car, and the information to be shown by said information showing means includes at least one of a manufacturer, a model, a car name, a grade, a shape, a use, an exterior color, a color No., an interior color, a body number, a displacement volume, the next compulsory safety check interval, a mileage, fuel, a shift, equipment, the quickest possible delivery date, a selling point, a photo, and a safety check certificate.
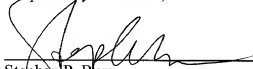
REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending herein. Applicant has amended the claims to eliminate multiple dependent claims. Attached hereto pursuant to Rule 121(c)(1)(ii), is a marked-up copy of amended claims 5-9 showing the amendments thereto. No new matter has been added. Applicant believes the case is now in condition for examination.

If the Examiner believes that contact with applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

July 19, 2001
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5.   An online trading system according to claim 3 ~~or 4~~ further comprising:

unit price storing means for storing a unit price of bidding up, wherein, if the article is to be sold to a bid submission received by said prior bid receiving means, said successful bid determining means determines a successful bid price by adding the unit price to the highest price of the bid submission received by said bid submission receiving means.

6.   An online trading system according to ~~claims~~ claim 3~~, 4, or 5,~~ further comprising:

unit price storing means for storing a unit price of bidding up; and

starting price storing means for storing a starting price of the auction, wherein, if there is no bid submission at the auction but a bid submission is received via the communicating means, said successful bid determining means determines a successful bid price by adding the unit price to the starting price.

7.   An online trading system according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~through 6,~~ wherein said information showing means shows the information of the article to public for a predetermined number of days and hours before the date of the auction at which the article is to be auctioned.

8.   An online trading system according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~through 6,~~ wherein said information showing means shows the information of the article to public on a predetermined day weeks before the date of the auction at which the article is to be auctioned.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

9.   An online trading system according to ~~any one of claims~~<u>claim</u> 1 ~~through 8~~, wherein the article is a used car, and the information to be shown by said information showing means includes at least one of a manufacturer, a model, a car name, a grade, a shape, a use, an exterior color, a color No., an interior color, a body number, a displacement volume, the next compulsory safety check interval, a mileage, fuel, a shift, equipment, the quickest possible delivery date, a selling point, a photo, and a safety check certificate.

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